Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, USS South Dakota (BB 57) was commissioned March 20, 1942, and became the most decorated battleship of World War II during its three years of combat; and,

Whereas, USS South Dakota performed with such distinction it was reported sunk three times by the Imperial Japanese Navy and became known as "Battleship X"; and,

Whereas, Of the 2,240 enlisted men and 114 officers who served on this ship, 95 were killed in action; and,

Whereas, USS South Dakota shot down 64 planes, participated in nine shore bombardments, and earned 13 Battle Stars, beginning with the Battle of Santa Cruz on October 26, 1942; and,

Whereas, The people of South Dakota are immensely proud of USS South Dakota (BB 57) and have erected a permanent memorial to the ship and its crew; and,

Whereas, Surviving crewmembers of USS South Dakota are gathering for a reunion on July 8, 2017, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 8, 2017, as

USS SOUTH DAKOTA (BB 57) DAY

in South Dakota, and I call upon all citizens to join me in honoring USS South Dakota and its crew.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Nineteenth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State